

Dr. Goldsmid stated that he had had letters from the U.S. and had received many letters and seemed surprised on the special severity measures.

Dr. Goldsmid said that the American people were very kind and generous. On Saturday, ten would like to be involved, the Canadian had not yet been. It is interesting to see the other letters from the U.S. and the Canadian about it in the record. The result was contrary to the prediction of the American people who had thought that the Canadian people would be very kind and generous. The result was that the Canadian people were very kind and generous.

Mr. Benjamin Hovory, President of the Illinois Organization of the American People, said that he was very glad to see the American people very kind and generous for the meeting.

IN THE DEBATE ON TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN THE KNESET

all parties were agreed that reforms could no longer be delayed. The

ROAD REFORM

plague of endless queues at bus stops in the towns and the frequent squabbles which break out as a result of tiredness, irritation and the helplessness of the public, and the apparent inability of the authorities concerned to do anything effective to ease the position have done more than any speeches or charges against the bus cooperatives could have done. The representatives of the Histadrut admit that their present attempt to control the cooperatives and to direct them towards greater efficiency is the final attempt. They advocate Government control in addition to the supervision to be exercised by their own representatives on the board of the new "Eshed" cooperative.

The Minister of Communications, however, told the Knesset, in winding up the debate, that his Ministry already exercises control of the bus lines; that it would continue to do so, and try to introduce the necessary reforms. This statement raises the question as to what control and reform really mean: the bus cooperatives must be turned into subsidiaries, so that the public can be sure that they will work first and foremost for their benefit and not for the private interests of the drivers. When this proposal was made some time ago, objections were raised on the ground that the drivers would withhold their cooperation. It was then still hoped that pressure on the cooperatives by the Histadrut would yield the desired results. But the reforms cannot be delayed any longer: the cost is too high.

The New Economic Policy of the Government aims at higher efficiency and the cutting of losses caused by negligence and slackness at work. The damage done to the working capacity of the population by transport difficulties, and the loss of working hours due to traffic snarls cannot be overestimated. The attraction of capital from abroad which was emphasized by the Ministry of Communications provides a prospect for improvement in the future, and could be used, too, to introduce competition into a system which has deteriorated whilst being operated as a monopoly. The Knesset debate ended without urging specific measures on the Government. The proposal to appoint a Parliamentary commission to deal with the problem was defeated, and it is, in fact, difficult to see how we can afford to wait for the results of such an enquiry which would take some months after which there would be no assurance that its conclusions would be acted upon. Organizational reforms must be pressed forward without delay to bring some temporary relief.

STAGE PRO-PAGANDA

Whoever decided that "The Taming of the Shrew" was a good play for Israeli audiences was a brave man, and, according to one opinion, a fool or a man with the wisdom of Solomon. For Katharine, whom Petruchio—the successful winner of women—once addresses by the less dignified name of Kate, is in fact archetypal of the unsatisfactory fiancée. Now perhaps no decent woman would complain of Kate's method of maintaining her state of single blessedness—that is to say, insulting every man who talked to her "in the way of love", but no self-respecting lady could agree that Kate's reaction to Petruchio's swarming attack was the right one. And so the suspicion may arise that the producer and his company are making a shabby piece of social propaganda with their "Taming of the Shrew".

For how does the Shakespearean virago in fact behave? She is unable to convince her own family that Petruchio is lying about her. She is unable to move her husband to pity, although he tortures her by starving and freezing her, and by showing her wonderful hats and gowns and then dismissing the merchants who bring them. She meekly consents to visiting her family wearing "honest mean habiliments", and she crowns her conjugal ineptitude and treachery of her own sex at the end of the play by being the only woman in the room to obey a direct command from her husband. Either masochism for spouses is being held up as an ideal state, or else a new sphere of male domination is being heralded and celebrated.

INDIA MAY OFFER TO MEDIATE Peace Feelers in Indo-China

By DENNIS BLOODWORTH

LETOURNEAU, the French High Commissioner for Indo-China, said last week that the French Government would accept the principle of an international conference to bring the war in Indo-China to an end, once an armistice had been signed. The initiative could not come from the French side.

His statement was prompted, well-informed circles here say, by the realization that the recent French withdrawal from the fortress of Hoa-Binh means that the Franco-Vietnamese forces are not strong enough to take the offensive in the Tongking hills, in view of increased Chinese aid to the rebels, and that the war must necessarily continue as an expensive stalemate, every day of which means a disastrous drain in men and money for France.

Fear of China

What is not generally realized is that M. Letourneau's statement in no sense pre-judges France's position. The Viet Minh have shown themselves anxious to come to terms. While the French can only see a satisfactory conclusion of hostilities through American intervention so vast, in terms of aid, that it might mean the relegation of French influence in Indo-China to a secondary place, the Viet Minh appear to have similar apprehensions about Red China. The continued Viet Minh military effort depends more and more on support by the Chinese, who are training the rebel forces across the border and providing all the arms. The Viet Minh, whose Popular Front, the Lien Viet, contains a small number of Stalinists and an overwhelming majority of nationalists who are Viet Namese first and last, do not wish to gain Indo-China at the expense of allowing it to become a sphere of Chinese influence.

It is now learned that in the summer of 1951, following tentative moves towards conciliation that have been made during the past two years, official Viet Minh representatives in Paris approached visiting members of the Indian Government in an attempt to obtain Indian mediation in the

MUSICAL DIARY

THE one woman-show, called "Musical Rendez-Vous with Claire Feldern and a grand Piano" at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday was a banisher of care in hard times. The Copenhagen parodist has a striking personality and remarkable musicality. Highlighting the first part of the original bill was "How the classical composers would have done it". If Bach, instead of Irving Berlin—were the composer of "Alexander's Ragtime Band"; if Liszt—instead of Vincent Youmans—did "Tea For Two," if Tchaikovsky had composed the famous French chanson: "Tout va bien, Madame la Marquise" or Chopin had composed "My Blue Heaven" in A flat-major. All of these were illustrated by Miss Feldern in matchless clair-obscur paraphrases. The second part of the programme took the audience on a "Musical Trip around the World," with the dancer acting as quick-change artist. Strangely enough she was at her best not in the female parts, but in her side-splitting male impersonations. We felt that unique "Ca, c'est Paris" thrill when Claire appeared as Maurice Chevalier, with a protruding under-lip, in "Valentine." We have seen dozens of Charlie Chaplin impersonations before now but never such a domineering affair as Claire Feldern's interpretation of Chaplin playing Liszt's Second Rhapsody.

A STAGE performance—concert, theatre or dance—which begins on time, is the exception rather than the rule in Israel. For this irresponsible practice there can be no justification. A backstage accident may have accounted for the fact that Hazel Scott started her concert 50 minutes late, that Pearl Primus's first appearance in Jerusalem began 45 minutes late, and that Larry Adler's was half an hour late, but the performances of our local theatre groups and musicians are consistently late as well.

The theatre patrons of this country have, understandably, begun to adapt themselves to the actual, rather than the announced, curtain times by arriving at the theatre at least 15 minutes before the advertised time.



conflict. At that time, however, the Indians felt that any such intervention might prejudice their negotiations with France and while some Frenchmen are under the influence of the future of Pondicherry. A few months later, the Viet Minh representatives abroad again approached the Indians through the agency of left-wing sympathizers, who tried to put the case before Pandit Nehru. Direct talks between the French and Viet Minh representatives have been impossible owing to the precarious, semi-legal position of the latter in France, but neutralist elements, who tried to act for both sides, are known to have received favourable reactions from the Indian members of the French Government.

Costly Lesson

Until now, these have been in a majority compared with officials who supported the other two lines of French thought—sacrificing French political influence in order to

gain increased American aid, or "hang on to what we have." The lesson of Hoa-Binh, however, has made the ground more favourable for negotiations. In November last year General de Lattre de Tassigny broke out of the defensive positions covering Hanoi and Haiphong, and seized Hoa-Binh, at the cross-roads of Viet Minh communications. Ten days ago Franco-Vietnamese forces withdrew to their defensive positions across the Black River. The operation cost the rebels 22,000 casualties, but the statement in French communiques that the holding of Hoa-Binh had completely disrupted rebel communications and pinned down three crack divisions only underlined the importance of its occupation and the fact that, in giving it up, the French admitted that their resources confined them to a largely defensive role and to a long war of attrition.

Both sides have stated that they refuse to be the initiators of negotiations. It remains to be seen whether the Indians will now offer mediation. Despite Viet Minh assurances that they would form an acceptable coalition with other nationalist elements in Viet Nam, French officials here are fully alive to the danger of the Communist elements finally seizing power, and the possibility of a possible end to the conflict, the majority pin their hopes on increased American aid.

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Readers' Letters

STUDENTS ABROAD

To the Editor of THE POST
Sir, — We have been told that there will soon be a severe shortage of young doctors in Israel. The study of medicine is complicated by the fact that only students who have completed five sciences are admitted to the Hebrew University, and beginners must therefore start ahead.

My son, after having served in the Haganah and then in the Defense Army during the war, was given permission to study abroad. I have somehow always managed to raise the money to send him to study, but now with the new exchange rate I see no way of helping him any longer. I would have to send IL 150 a month (instead of IL 50 as hitherto) which is more than my wife and I can manage.

It is inexcusable that the new exchange rate should be applied to those students whom the Government allowed to start their studies abroad, and it will mean the end of a career and the loss of time and money.

Yours etc.
ONE OF THE MANY
Haifa, February 24.

EGG SHORTAGE

To the Editor of THE POST
Sir, — In a country as dangerously short of protein foods as Israel, it is not madnes to propose curtailing the consumption of eggs by 30 per cent, even if additional fodder is expected to maintain the present egg ration?

Any nutrition expert will agree that the egg constitutes one of the most complete sources of protein available. Added to this, an egg can be turned into a meal with little or no supplementary material such as fat. This is the Food Ministry's job so long as it is not a day as its target. It is now entitled with an average of less than a week or less! Does it realize that its families with children, the adults rarely eat more than one or two eggs a week because of the necessity of feeding the children on the remainder of their own rations.

Yours etc.
DAPHNE O. DOSTROVSKY
Ramat, February 25.

the part-playing was not so lucid. The Mozart Clarinet Quintet (with J. Zelmanov) had a fresh exuberance but lacked sufficient contrast in tone colour. The Dvorak Quartet in F major (the "Nigger" Quartet) was very well played with much more light and shade and a general finish to the performance.

Abroad

A performance of Dr. Tenen's "Suite Dramatique" by the Bucharest Philharmonic, conducted by S. Mircea, was broadcast recently from Bucharest. Joseph Schocken scored a great success with vocal recitals in Sweden, according to the Stockholm press. Ernst von Dohnany's Second Violin Concerto had its world premiere with the San Antonio Symphony, conducted by Victor Alexandro. Dedicated to Francesa Magnes, who was the soloist, it is written with orchestral scoring for no violins at all. Shimon Mishori, leader of the Kol Yisrael orchestra, was soloist with the Manhattan Chamber orchestra, conducted by Charles Schiff, at the N.Y. Town Hall recently. According to the "N.Y. Times," "Mr. Mishori played Khachaturian's Violin Concerto with positive command of his instrument and sure knowledge of every musical demand." "Mr. Mishori plays straight music, with plenty of technique and strength. His tone is limpid, his fingers are nimble, and he stays well clear of unnecessary mannerism," writes the N.Y. "Herald Tribune."

Haifa String Quartet

It is not easy to wield a new orchestra into a coordinated whole and even more difficult to do so with a string quartet. The Haifa quartet (Marcus, Melamed, Nikolaevsky and Abileah, all members of the Haifa orchestra) is still in the process of becoming an integrated whole but has made good progress toward it. The programme at Beth Harofe last Saturday evening afforded an opportunity for hearing 3 contrapunti (Nos. VI and VII) from Bach's Art of the Fugue, a composition which demands the utmost precision in exposition and performance. The playing of the first of these was very clear, but in the second and third

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Behind the Middle East News New Plans for Union of Islam

By Achimogol

DURING his visit to Egypt last week, Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan, Pakistan Foreign Minister, tried hard to close the ever widening gap between Turkey and the Arab States, Arab-Turkish relations, off to an auspicious start after Azam Pasha's visit to Istanbul in June, 1951, have deteriorated steadily since. Both Turkey's vote in the Security Council on the free passage of ships through the Suez Canal and her co-sponsorship of the plan for the Middle East Command put her at odds with Egypt.

Zafrullah Khan's conciliatory efforts are a necessary preliminary to his plan for an Islamic Union, which he submitted during the Cairo talks. This plan, as distinct from the Middle East Command and the as yet loose grouping of Asian States under Indian leadership at the U.N., shows how diverse are the regional families to which the Middle Eastern countries are invited to adhere, diverse both in purpose and in qualifying identity. Recent changes of government and policy in Egypt have tamed the speculative faculties of many observers. There is, however, a body of agreed opinion which it is worthwhile to recapitulate.

It will depend on the British assessment of the outcome of the contest between the King and the parliamentary majority party whether they will consider the King's executive fit to enter into binding commitments.

GOOD GERMANS

To the Editor of THE POST
Sir, — Your leader "German Reparations" (January 7) implied that good Germans hardly exist.

But what about those Germans who, fully aware of the consequences of their behaviour, stood up against Hitler and perished as a result? There were thousands of Germans who sheltered Jews, and helped them to escape. Many Germans died anonymously after having openly protested against the treatment of Jews with whom they were interned in concentration camps. And there were innumerable Germans who stood aside, mortally ashamed and disgusted by the deeds of the Nazis, but unable to face imprisonment, internment or even death by lifting their voices against the tormentors of the Jews. Can we really blame them? And would the majority of us have acted differently? I doubt it.

Rabbi Weinberg, former Chief Rabbi of Haifa, who only recently left Germany, estimates that today about 20 per cent of the Germans are incorrigible Nazis, 20 per cent are shallow relativists, anti-Nazis, who are deeply ashamed of what happened in the name of the German nation as a whole, and who are actively striving for a re-education and reorientation of the remaining 60 per cent which form the nucleus of the German people.

Are we right then in ignoring or rejecting the good Germans who, through the "Peace with Israel" or "The Aid for Israel" movements appeal to us to accept peace with those who are actively striving for a re-education and reorientation of the remaining 60 per cent which form the nucleus of the German people?

Yours,
R. CSERGERI
Haifa, February 11.

TRANSLATION VERSUS TRANSCRIPTION

To the Editor of THE POST
Sir, — Our Mayor, Mr. A. Khoushi, has now given orders to replace Mandatory street signs in Haifa, which used to show the name of a street in all (then official) languages by new ones giving the Hebrew name in full as well as transcriptions in Arab and Latin characters.

My translation was changed into transcription on principle. I should like to raise the following points:

1. Why should transcription be applied to Arabic this being to my knowledge an official language?

2. Why, if accepting the principle of transcription, should EN 171 for example become Hayan Road? It might as well be Rue Hayan, Hayan Uchka, Via Hayan etc.

S. WACHS
Haifa, Jan. 25.

A Woman Seeks Advice

Question: EVERY
I WEAR MY EVENING
DRESS, I wonder: "Why
isn't the skin on my face as
soft and smooth as that on
my shoulders?"

Answer: You are not
the only woman who has asked
herself this question. An unprotected
complexion suffers as a result
of cold, weather and wind,
which make it look
sore and faded. However,
with expert care your
complexion can again be
made lovely and attractive.
Follow the example of millions
of women — who, all
over the world, take care of
their complexion with Creme
Tokalon.

Creme Tokalon white colour,
non-greasy and by day,
makes your skin soft, clear
and velvety. By penetrating
deep into the pores it ex-

tracts impurities which are
responsible for imperfections
in your complexion. En-
larged pores are tightened.
Keep your regained beauty
by using at night the Creme
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Arab League Council

THE paramount importance attached to the Arab League Council meeting scheduled for March 25 may be inferred from the Egyptian request for heads of governments and foreign ministers to attend in person. General Sole of Syria is so far known to have signalled compliance.

Neither confirmation nor denial could be elicited from the Beirut Headquarters of the U.N. Arab-Refugee Office, that Mr. Blandford and his assistant would attend the Council meeting in person. Coupled with the recent pronouncements of the Lebanese Prime Minister on the settlement of Palestine Refugees and the tenor of Sir Zafrullah Khan's famous statements in Cairo and Karachi, such equivocation permits one to assume a very thorough reconsideration of the hitherto inflexible Arab attitude on the Refugee Question. As for peace in the Middle East, the general implications of Arab agreement to the integration of the Refugees within their countries are manifest.

The draft agenda for the meeting of the Council is as follows:

1. Presentation of Credentials.

2. Political Questions affecting Arab countries.

3. Proposals submitted by Member States.

4. The establishment of a department.

Israel America Friendship League
Haifa Branch
Prof. Dr. Wilbert Snow
now visiting Israel
will lecture on
"What is an American?"
Tonight at Bet Harofe, Haifa
at 8. Entrance free.

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Ravel, Bartok;

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Refugees

THE Lebanese Government appears to be following up its Prime Minister's recent statements. It is known to be negotiating with the Syrian Government for a settlement of part of its Palestinian Refugees in Syria's El Jazira District. A conference of the refugees living in Syria and the Lebanon, due to take place in Beirut on March 18, has been permitted by the Lebanese authorities only on the express condition that no demonstrations take place.

A hopeful meaning may also be read into the invitation extended by Libya for considerable numbers of refugees, tradesmen and clerks to take up employment there. These signs are possibly indicative of a desire on the part of the Arab Governments to divert the refugee problem of the attributes of political expediency and to view it on its own merits. Against them, however, must be set the indispensable of a public opinion studiously generated over many years and by nature ill fitted for quick turnabouts.

COLONEL Shishakli's desire to bolster Syrian national affirmation may soon register a number of successes.

A second treaty is about to be signed between Italy and Syria, providing for the export to Italy of cotton in exchange for agricultural and industrial machinery.

Domestic airport is being improved so as to offer services comparable to those of Cairo, Lydda and Beirut in terms of transit. Satisfactory arrangements to have been reached with BOAC for a new air Damascus to the London-Baghdad run, and landing rights are being negotiated with Swiss and Turkish airlines.

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TIME

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2) 2-6 p.m.; 3) 8.15-9.45 p.m.; 4) 7-9 p.m.

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